



ssnup

Smallholder Sustainability
Upscaling Programme

STRENGTHENING THE SAFETY NET OF PALM FRUIT PRODUCERS IN SIERRA LEONE



Africa



Latin America



Asia



Financial services delivery



Capacity building for end
beneficiaries



Market access and
product development



Management systems
improvement

CONTEXT

Palm oil is a high-value agricultural value chain with strong global market demand, providing substantial income opportunities for smallholder farmers. The market for organic palm oil is relatively nascent compared to the conventional palm oil market. The main challenge facing the organic palm oil industry is the lack of supply. Certification requirements are onerous and expensive to obtain (and sustain) requiring conventional crude palm oil producers to implement significant operational changes to meet traceability requirements, including the EU Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).

CURRENT STATUS OF THE BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Planting Naturals B.V (PN) is the holding company of the Planting Naturals group, an organic palm oil producer in Sierra Leone with marketing operations in the Netherlands. Planting Naturals is a vertically integrated company committed to the sustainable production of organic palm oil, via smallholder farmers and its own plantations in Sierra Leone. It ensures traceability from farm to fork to its customers in the food, animal feed, and infant nutrition industries. It is the largest organic producer in West Africa.

OBJECTIVE OF THE PROJECT

The project aims to strengthen the safety net of smallholder households by improving the yield, quality and price of the palm fruits they produce.

The expected results of the project are:

- Increase revenue of 7,836 smallholder farmers through certification, improved yield and premium pricing.
- Train 6,000 beneficiaries (30% women) on financial literacy through Village Savings & Loans Associations.
- Implement a gender action plan to improve gender outcomes both at employee and smallholder farmers' levels.
- Improve data management and traceability in line with EUDR requirements.

IMPACT INVESTOR

AgDevCo[®]

BENEFICIARY ORGANISATION

Planting Naturals B.V (SME) –
Sierra Leone

TARGET

10,836 smallholders

AGRICULTURAL VALUE CHAIN

Palm kernels

STARTING DATE

May 2025

DURATION

20 months

TOTAL TA BUDGET

€ 564,886
Including € 293,227 (52%)
contribution from SSNUP



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